

Applicant(s): Allan Scherr  
Serial No.: 10/036,547  
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E30-050CON2 (96-031CON2)

In the Claims

Please cancel claims 1 through 13 and 15 through 17 in favor of new claims 18 through 32 as follows:

Claims 1- 17 (canceled)

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18 (New). <sup>At data network comprising</sup> A data node at each of at least first and second sites in a data network, wherein <sup>each</sup> (at least two of the) data nodes includes a cache management system, the cache management system at said data node comprising:

10 A) a cache memory device coupled to the data network, for storing at least two different cache memory management methods for controlling communications with other data nodes in the data network, and

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15 B) a cache memory manager connected to said cache memory device for controlling transfers with other <sup>a corresponding</sup> (data nodes in response to one of the at least two different cache memory management methods <sup>from corresponding</sup> in said cache memory device) and wherein the cache memory management methods used at said <sup>one</sup> data node and another data node on the data network are different.

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19 (New). A data node as recited in claim 18 wherein said <sup>each</sup> cache memory manager (at said data node) includes method

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selection means for selecting one of the cache memory  
management methods <sup>stored a correspondence</sup> in said cache memory device for controlling  
<sup>the cache memory device</sup> (communications network communications) <sup>that</sup> at said data node.

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20 (New). A data node as recited in claim 19 wherein said  
cache memory manager (at said data node) includes monitoring  
means for monitoring operations at a respective node and said  
method selection means <sup>at that data node a correspondence</sup> responds to said monitoring means.

10 21 (New). A data node as recited in claim 19 wherein said  
cache memory manager (at said data node) includes monitoring  
means <sup>a reply</sup> (at said data node) for receiving commands from other data  
nodes and said method selection means <sup>at that data node</sup> responds to the received  
commands.

15 22 (New). A data node as recited in claim 21 wherein one of  
said cache memory management methods is a least recently used  
cache management method.

20 23 (New). A data node as recited in claim 21 wherein one of  
said cache memory management methods is a data usage cache  
management method.

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24 (New). A data node as recited in claim 21 wherein one of said cache memory management methods is a store-through cache management method.

5 25 (New). A data node as recited in claim 21 wherein one of said cache memory management methods is a pre-fetch cache management method.

10 26 (New). A data node as recited in claim 21 wherein one of said cache memory management methods is an indexing cache management method.

15 27 (New). A data node as recited in claim 21 wherein one of said cache memory management methods is a B-tree cache management method.

20 28 (New). A data node as recited in claim 21 wherein one of said cache memory management methods is a charging cache management method.

29 (New). A data node as recited in claim 18 wherein said cache memory manager includes means, response to messages received over the network, for selecting one of the cache memory

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*store a comparison*  
management methods in said cache memory device for controlling  
*the cache memory device at said data node*  
communications with the network.

*Sub*  
*ca*  
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5 30 (New). A data node as recited in claim 18 wherein said  
cache memory device includes *means* storage for storing least  
recently used, data usage, store-through, pre-fetch, indexing,  
Btree and charge cache memory management methods as the at  
least two cache memory management methods.

10 31 (New). A data node as recited in claim 30 wherein said  
cache memory manager *each* (at said data node) includes monitoring  
means *a comparison* (at said data node) for monitoring operations at said data  
node and *the* *the com* said method selection means at said data node responds  
to said monitoring means.

15 32 (New). A data node as recited in claim 30 wherein said  
cache memory manager *each* (at said data node) includes monitoring  
means *data* (at said data node) for receiving commands from other nodes  
and method selection means *that* at said data node for responding to  
20 the received commands by *a comparison* selecting one of the cache memory  
management methods in said cache memory device.